

environmental extremists, how far they will go to pursue their agenda.

We had an opportunity last week to allow people in California to make repairs on a levee that had already broken several times and it actually killed Americans after the levee broke. Yet, when we had an opportunity to allow people to go in and make repairs on that levee, the environmentalists went absolutely crazy and said that they would not allow anybody to fix the levee that had already killed people without waivers.

They said that there was a beetle inside of shrubbery that was so precious that they could not allow these life-saving measures to be taken. So the shrubbery caucus decided that the life of beetles and the life of shrubbery was obviously more important than the life of human beings.

Mr. Chairman, as the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. TRAFICANT] says, beam me up. That just does not make sense.

#### AMERICORPS' WASTEFUL SPENDING OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chairman, I would like to talk a little bit about AmeriCorps. We found out recently that in Colorado, AmeriCorps has built some hornos, H-O-R-N-O, and hornos are mud stoves that were used by the Indians some 4,000 years ago. And we have spent our American tax dollars at a park in Colorado to build these hornos, so that if we happen to be traveling through Colorado and we have the urge to stop and cook some tortillas or cook some food on these hornos, well, our tax dollars have provided that opportunity to us.

Now, AmeriCorps had a good intent of trying to bring nonprofit organizations together, but these paid volunteers now have taken our tax dollars and they are starting to expend it in funny ways. We have now an opportunity in the very near future to eliminate this tremendous waste, so I just wanted to bring to the country's attention how their tax dollars have been wasted through this organization called AmeriCorps, which is a code word for paid volunteers.

#### HORNOS FOR COLORADANS

(Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, the previous speaker, the gentleman from Kansas, mentioned a project that takes place in my district in Colorado, these hornos ovens that we will find built in the Fort Collins area. It is a pile of mud. It is about that high, and some people believe they are attractive, but the AmeriCorps Program built this pile of mud in Fort Collins as a gift to the people of my community, as a gift.

I just want to point out that when Members think of the AmeriCorps Program and the volunteers out working hard to deliver important projects to the community, I do invite my colleagues, as the gentleman said, to come through Fort Collins and look at the mud pile that the AmeriCorps Program has left in my community in Fort Collins and think about how vigorously we should support continuation of the program.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTINGS of Washington). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 1997, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. PALLONE] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. DREIER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. DREIER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

THE SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

#### TRIBUTE TO REGINALD MAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas [Mr. SNOWBARGER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding teacher.

Reginald May directs the instrumental music program at F.L. Schlagle High School in Kansas City, KS, home of the Mighty Marching Stallions.

Mr. May has been a music instructor in the Kansas City area for nearly 20 years. He is credited with forming the first middle school marching band in the Kansas City, MO, school district and since 1993 has been in charge of the music and auxiliary marching programs at Schlagle.

Mr. May leads his students in performing all over the community, at churches, day care centers, charitable fund-raising activities, and corporate events. I first met Mr. May 3 weeks ago when I was speaking at a memorial service on the anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing. He conducted the

Schlagle band at the service and we were all very appreciative for their contribution that day.

The marching band has been nationally recognized, including a second place finish in the national parade division at the Circle City Classic parade in Indianapolis. Likewise, many of his individual students have received academic honors and recognition for personal achievements.

One of Mr. May's special challenges has been to keep his students in school. He bonds with his students, not only as their teacher, but as their mentor and their friend. He believes in their potential and helps them believe in themselves. He is a great influence on the determination of many of his students to not only stay in high school, but to go on to college.

But make no mistake. Mr. May is not an easy touch. His music classes are as tough and challenging as they are fun and rewarding. To quote Mr. May, "High standards and no-nonsense policies are set by the Schlagle High School Band program. If you believe in young people and give 110 percent, they will give you the same in return." The marching band program's stated goals are to strive to be the best and to demonstrate pride, perfection in musicianship and precision in marching.

But the mark of a great teacher can often be his or her ability to help guide students toward a fulfilling career. Thanks to Mr. May's skill, devotion and enthusiasm, many of his students have chosen a music career. One way he encourages this is by bringing in first rate professional musicians like blues guitarist Michael "Hawkeye" Herman to play with his students. According to a news account, that session with Schlagle students in 1995, which lasted for hours, included an impromptu performance of the classic "Kansas City" by "Hawkeye" Herman.

Obviously, Mr. May knows how to make music fun for his students. As the acting principal of Schlagle High School, Mary Stewart wrote to me that Mr. May's students are proud to say they go to Schlagle, the school with the great band.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that this great teacher, Reginald May, is leading a great band at a great school in my district. I thank the House for allowing me to recognize today the contribution he makes to our community.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut [Mrs. JOHNSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. HORN] is recognized for 5 minutes.